

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 01628 221420Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 AID-05 /053 W

-----078019 221438Z /53

R 221340Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7725

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 1628

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SL

SUBJ: ONE PARTY CONSTITUTION: PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE BEGINS

REF: (A) FREETOWN 1599, (B) FREETOWN 1578, (C) FREETOWN 1538

1. DEBATE ON THE ONE PARTY CONSTITUTION BEGAN IN PARLIAMENT MORNING OF MAY 22. INFORMED SOURCES SAY DEBATE IS TO CONTINUE THROUGH WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, AND THAT THE NECESSARY TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL IS ASSURED. CABINET MINISTERS, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND APC LEADERS HELD SERIES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS OVER WEEKEND TO GAIN POPULAR SUPPORT FOR NEW CONSTITUTION.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: LOCAL COMMENT HAS BEEN RESTRAINED, EVEN FEARFUL. THOSE WHO OPPOSE CONSTITUTION BELIEVE THERE IS NOTHING THEY CAN DO TO PREVENT PASSAGE AND THAT VOCAL OPPOSITION COULD LEAD TO DETENTION. LOCAL SOURCES ARE UNCERTAIN WHETHER THERE WILL BE VIOLENT REACTION FROM RURAL POPULATIONS IN PRO-SLPP EASTERN AND SOUTHERN PROVINCES, BUT BELIEVE GOSL HAS SUFFICIENT ARMED FORCES TO COPE WITH ANY DEMONSTRATIONS. ONE EXTREMELY WELL INFORMED CONTACT PREDICTED THAT ADOPTION OF ONE PARTY SGETE WOULD LEAD TO EVEN MORE DANGEROUS INTRA-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARTY DISPUTES THAN THERE HAD BEEN INTER-PARTY DISPUTES UNDER MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM. END EMBASSY COMMENT.
NORTH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY CONSTITUTION, ONE PARTY GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978FREETO01628
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780215-0577
Format: TEL
From: FREETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780534/aaaabcrcl.tel
Line Count: 58
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0bc48a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 FREETOWN 1599, 78 FREETOWN 1578, 78 FREETOWN 1538
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2619644
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ONE PARTY CONSTITUTION: PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE BEGINS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcl//SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0bc48a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014